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23 October 1957

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Targets on East Germany

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Below is the S/CST contribution to the Targets on East Germany

Objective II d

The Strengths and weaknesses of the Soviet (including Satellite) economy, with particular refrence to its ability to support a major war; the motivation, character, and magnitude of current economic development programs, their implementation and their effect upon the economic, political, and military strength of the Soviet Bloc; the capabilities and vulnerabilities of the Soviet and Satellite internal communications systems.

BACKGROUND

The capacity of the East German construction industry has in the past been limited by shortages of labor and construction materials. Measures are proposed in the Second Five-Year Flan to increase the capacity for cement production and to achieve greater standardization and industrialization of construction using prefabricated elements. Progress in these programs is of particular significance in appraising the capabilities of the construction industry. Exports of cement, cement factory installations, and construction equipment are significant, since the magnitude of such exports may largely determine the ability of the construction industry to meet plan goals.

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SUBJECT:

Target on East Germany

A. General

Basic Outdance

Economic plans, programs, plan fulfillment reports, significant failures and achievements; construction planning apparatus; effects of recent moves to decentralize control over planning and execution of construction activity.

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SECRET

Distribution of construction output among major economic sectors; the extent of military and defense construction and the impact on the over-all construction program; shortages of building materials, particularly cement; any evidence of cutbacks in housing, social, and cultural construction so that scarce construction resources can be diverted to industrial construction; developments in the production of prefabricated sections and large wall panels for housing and other construction, with particular reference to production of lightweight panels and completely prefabricated houses; progress in applying techniques of industrialized construction.

Methods of arriving at estimate prices for construction materials and manpower used in the investment planning; actual costs of production of various building materials; prices at which materials are sold to construction enterprises and the basis for their determination; relation—saip of market prices to production costs and estimates, or plan prices; price basis used by the construction industry in reporting plan fulfill—ment, i.e., is plan fulfillment reported in terms of plan prices or does it reflect actual prices paid for imputs, where actual prices differ from plan prices.

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SECRET

No. Target

- I. Classified version of the Second Five Year Flan (1956-60), yearly economic plans, Budgets, and plan fulfillment reports.
- 2. Classified directives of the Ministry of Construction concerning methods of reporting of construction output and plan fulfillment.
- 3. Classified directives of the Ministry of Construction establishing prices of building materials and wage rates for specific types of labor.
- 4. Classified production and financial records of enterprises producing building materials and their reports to the Hinistry of Construction.
- 5. Classified records of construction enterprises, with particular reference to total wages and materials costs, and periodic reports submitted to the Ministry of Censtruction.

Location

Most likely to exist in offices of the ministries and the planning commission of the council of ministers.

ministry of Construction, other investing ministries and offices of construction enterorises.

Ministry of Construction, construction enterprises, building materials production enterprises.

Ministry of Construction individual building materials enterprises.

Ministry of Construction, individual construction enterprises.

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